



FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED,  
THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS NOT FROM  
YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.  
*EPH 2:8-9*

**March 24<sup>nd</sup>, 2016**  
**Maundy Thursday**



## **Christ, Our Passover Lamb**

**CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH & LEARNING CENTER**

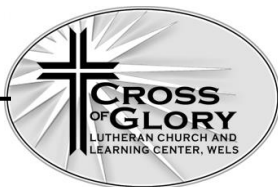
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***Welcome!*** We are glad you are here with us today. Our service today follows an order of worship which places the spotlight on God's Word and its central message of peace through Jesus. You can follow the outline of the service in this worship folder. The hymn numbers refer to the red hymnal: Christian Worship or the blue soft cover Christian Worship: Supplement.

***Holy Communion:*** We offer a class (*Basic Biblical Christianity*) for those desiring to take the sacrament. If you are a newcomer, please take this class before communing or speak with our pastor.

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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**HYMN....."Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night (#136)**

*REMAIN SEATED*

### **INSTRUCTION FOR THE END OF LENT**

**M:** In this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father,  
I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.  
In what I have done and left undone,  
I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.  
I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.  
For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.  
I am truly sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

*Silence for meditation*

**M:** Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**C: Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt.  
Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

**M:** The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **EXHORTATION**

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

**M and C: May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion you give us your true body and blood as a remembrance of your suffering and death on the cross. Grant us so firmly to believe your words and promise that we may always partake of this Sacrament to our eternal good, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

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## THE WORD OF GOD

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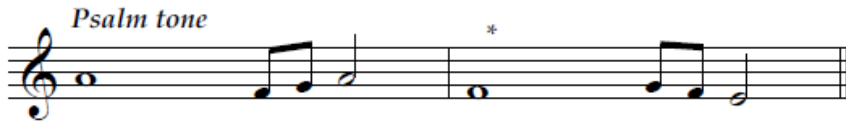
### FIRST LESSON.....Exodus 12:1-14

*The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, <sup>2</sup>"This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. <sup>4</sup>If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. <sup>5</sup>The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. <sup>6</sup>Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. <sup>7</sup>Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. <sup>8</sup>That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire-- head, legs and inner parts. <sup>10</sup>Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. <sup>11</sup>This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. <sup>12</sup>"On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn-- both men and animals-- and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. <sup>14</sup>"This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD-- a lasting ordinance.*

## PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 116



I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.



*Psalm tone*

- M:** I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;  
**C:** he heard my cry for mercy.
- M:** Because he turned his ear to me,  
**C:** I will call on him as long as I live.
- M:** The LORD is gracious and righteous;  
**C:** when I was in great need, he saved me.

### *Refrain*

- M:** For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,  
**C:** my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
- M:** How can I repay the LORD  
**C:** for all his goodness to me?
- M:** I will lift up the cup of salvation  
**C:** and call on the name of the LORD.
- C:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### *Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON.....Hebrews 10:15-25

*The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:<sup>16</sup> "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."<sup>17</sup> Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."<sup>18</sup> And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of*

*Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,<sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God,<sup>22</sup> let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.<sup>23</sup> Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.<sup>25</sup> Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

**VERSE OF THE DAY.....1 CORINTHIANS 11:26**

**M:** As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**GOSPEL.....Luke 22:7-20**

*Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed.<sup>8</sup> Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."<sup>9</sup> "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.<sup>10</sup> He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters,<sup>11</sup> and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'"<sup>12</sup> He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there."<sup>13</sup> They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.<sup>14</sup> When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table.<sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.<sup>16</sup> For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."<sup>17</sup> After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you."<sup>18</sup> For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."<sup>19</sup> And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."<sup>20</sup> In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.*

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord!  
**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ.

**HYMN OF THE DAY.....When You Woke that Thursday Morning (#717)**

**MEDITATION: “The Never-Ending Festival”**

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# PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M:** Lord God, heavenly Father, author of the everlasting covenant and giver of the cup of salvation,
- C:** **We gather in your courts to offer you our sacrifice of thanksgiving.**
- M:** Precious Savior, both Priest and offering, awe and wonder fill our hearts as we partake of your body, broken for us, and your blood, shed for us.
- C:** **We praise you, bless you, and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ.**
- M:** In our poverty of righteousness, we have nothing to offer. Without your tremendous sacrifice, we would still be in our sins,
- C:** **But through your sacrament of the New Testament, we are assured that our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are no longer remembered.**
- M:** O Holy Spirit, dwell within us as we remember our Lord's death in this sacrament. Enter our hearts to strengthen our faith and fill us with gratitude for your great mercy.
- C:** **Move us to encourage one another to love and to do good works.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

- M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.
- M:** As our Lord served his disciples by washing their feet, so may we also humbly serve one another.
- C:** **Help us live our lives as sacrifices of thanksgiving to him who first loved us. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

- C:** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**



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# THE SACRAMENT

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**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

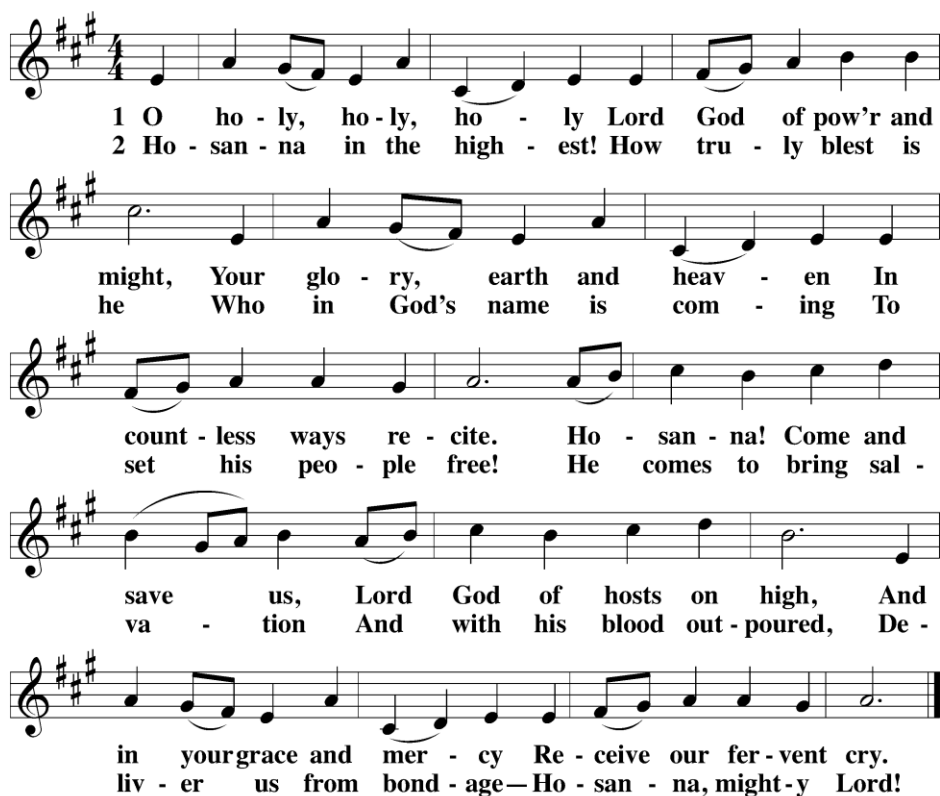
**M:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**M:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is

might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In  
he Who in God's name is com - ing To

count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and  
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -

save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And  
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -

in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.  
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!



## THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

*Sung to the tune of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

**The night that Jesus was betrayed  
He took the bread and then he prayed,  
He broke and gave them of the bread  
And unto his disciples said:**

**M:** "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

**Then when the sacred meal was o'er,  
Our blessed Savior spoke once more.  
He offered thanks and lifted up  
To give to all the blessed cup:**

**M:** "Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**O Lamb of God, you take away  
The sin of all; now hear us, we pray.  
And grant us from our sins release:  
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!**

## DISTRIBUTION

### PRAYER

**M:** We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

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## THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

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**M:** Our service this evening concludes with a solemn stripping of the altar. The altar is the most prominent symbol of Christ in the church. This ancient tradition of removing the altar ware and paraments at the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service serves as a powerful reminder of Jesus' abandonment by his disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane. As the altar is stripped, we hear a singing of Psalm 88.

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*O LORD, the God who saves me, day and night I cry out before you.  
May my prayer come before you; turn your ear to my cry.  
For my soul is full of trouble and my life draws near the grave.  
I am counted among those who go down to the pit; I am like a man without strength.  
I am set apart with the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom you remember no  
more, who are cut off from your care.  
You have put me in the lowest pit, in the darkest depths.  
Your wrath lies heavily upon me; you have overwhelmed me with all your waves.  
You have taken from me my closest friends and have made me repulsive to them. I am  
confined and cannot escape;  
my eyes are dim with grief. I call to you, O LORD, every day; I spread out my hands to you.  
Do you show your wonders to the dead? Do those who are dead rise up and praise you?  
Is your love declared in the grave, your faithfulness in Destruction?  
Are your wonders known in the place of darkness, or your righteous deeds in the land of  
oblivion?  
But I cry to you for help, O LORD; in the morning my prayer comes before you.  
Why, O LORD, do you reject me and hide your face from me?  
From my youth I have been afflicted and close to death; I have suffered your terrors and am  
in despair.  
Your wrath has swept over me; your terrors have destroyed me.  
All day long they surround me like a flood; they have completely engulfed me.  
You have taken my companions and loved ones from me; the darkness is my closest friend.*

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